

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 17-34 without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to pursue the cancelled subject matter in a continuing application. Please amend claim 10 and add claims 35-49 as follows.

10. (Amended) A connection module comprising:

a housing having an interior defined by a front portion and a rear portion spaced apart from the front portion;

a plurality of connection locations having exposed openings disposed in the front portion; and

a splicing component disposed at least partially between the connection locations and the rear portion, the splicing component configured to optically connect a fiber optic cable that is connected to the module to interior cables that are optically connected between the splicing component and the connection locations;

the housing further including a lower portion having a direct opening into the interior of the housing, the opening sized to receive a fiber optic cable.

35. (New) A connection module comprising:

a housing having a front portion and a rear portion spaced apart from the front portion, the front portion being substantially parallel to the rear portion;

a plurality of connection locations having exposed openings disposed in the front portion, the connection locations including a plurality of adapters configured and arranged for connection to an optical fiber connector, the adapters positioned at an angle having a first component angle that is in the direction of the rear portion to the front portion and a second component angle that is in the direction of the lower portion; and

a splicing component disposed at least partially between the connection locations and the rear portion, the splicing component configured to optically connect a fiber optic cable that is connected to the module to interior cables that are optically connected between the splicing component and the connection locations;

the housing further including a lower portion having an opening, the opening sized to receive a fiber optic cable.

36. (New) The connection module of claim 35, wherein the opening is sized to receive at least two fiber optic cables.

37. (New) The connection module of claim 10, wherein the opening into the interior of the housing is a downwardly facing opening.

38. (New) The connection module of claim 37, wherein the opening into the interior of the housing is a fully circumscribed opening.

39. (New) The connection module of claim 10, wherein the opening is sized to receive at least two fiber optic cables.

40. (New) A connection module comprising:

a housing having an interior defined by a front portion and a rear portion spaced apart from the front portion;

a plurality of connection locations having exposed openings disposed in the front portion; and

a splicing component disposed at least partially between the connection locations and the rear portion, the splicing component configured to optically connect a fiber optic cable that is connected to the module to interior cables that are optically connected between the splicing component and the connection locations;

the housing further including a lower portion having a downwardly facing opening into the interior of the housing, the opening sized to receive a fiber optic cable.

41. (New) The connection module of claim 40, wherein the front portion is substantially parallel to the rear portion.

42. (New) The connection module of claim 41, wherein the opening defines a plane, the plane being substantially perpendicular to the front and rear portions.

43. (New) The connection module of claim 41, wherein the opening is a direct opening into the interior of the housing.

44. (New) The connection module of claim 41, wherein the opening is a fully circumscribed opening into the interior of the housing.

45. (New) The connection module of claim 41, wherein the opening is sized to receive at least two fiber optic cables.

46. (New) The connection module of claim 40, wherein the opening is a fully circumscribed opening into the interior of the housing.

47. (New) The connection module of claim 46, wherein the opening defines a plane, the plane being substantially perpendicular to the front and rear portions of the housing.

48. (New) The connection module of claim 46, wherein the opening is sized to receive at least two fiber optic cables.

49. (New) The connection module of claim 1, wherein the opening defined in the cable notch region is a downwardly facing opening.